PLEASE REJOICE WITH US

FPMT ANNUAL REVIEW 2013

PLEASE REJOICE WITH US
Hello to all my very dear father, mother, brother and sister students who have much compassion to sentient beings – even to the ants, insects, crickets, cockroaches, spiders, mosquitoes, bed bugs, rats, scorpions, snakes, slugs, millipedes and so forth – as well as care and devotion to Buddha, Dharma and Sangha; who not only serve sentient beings, but also serve Buddha, Dharma and Sangha. Wow, wow, wow, wow, wow.

First I want to say numberless thanks to all the FPMT family for your continual dedication and study, and for all your effort put into developing the centers by improving the conditions to receive teachers so that sentient beings can receive teachings, as well as all the FPMT projects and services that benefit sentient beings in so many different ways. It’s amazing, really fantastic. Thank you very, very much. Because of this, more and more good results have been happening and we have been able to bring greater benefit to others. This is something we can all see, enjoy and rejoice in.

Then I want to mention a little about how the centers benefit sentient beings by teaching the Dharma. First of all, by introducing the subject of karma, teaching the shortcomings of creating negative karma and benefits of taking refuge and creating positive karma, the centers give sentient beings the amazing opportunity to be reborn as a deva or human being or even in a pure land.

Then, by introducing the Four Noble Truths, explaining what samsara is and how it is only in the nature of suffering, and by explaining the true cause of suffering, delusion and karma, the center gives sentient beings the amazing opportunity to be free forever from the oceans of samsaric suffering and achieve the blissful state of nirvana by actualizing true cessation and the true path, which is the antidote to suffering.

Then, by teaching the essence of all Buddha’s teachings, great compassion, which is the cause to generate bodhichitta and enter into the Mahayana path, the center gives sentient beings the opportunity to cease all the mistakes of the mind, complete all the realizations and achieve the perfect omniscience, infinite compassion, power, qualities and activities of a fully enlightened Buddha. Wow, wow, wow, wow, wow. Amazing, amazing, amazing.

So this is what the centers are doing, dispelling the darkness of ignorance by bringing the light of Dharma to sentient beings. And we are not just telling people to believe the Buddha’s teachings with blind faith, but offering different programs for the extensive study and practice of all the sutra and tantra teachings. Without studying, it is like living in a dark room and not being able to see anything. The more you study, it’s like lightening the heart, or opening an extra eye, a wisdom eye. You can see for yourself the difference between before studying and after studying.

This is the incredible benefit the centers are offering sentient beings by providing the conditions for studying the Buddha’s teachings. It is the best way to repay the kindness of Guru Shakyamuni Buddha. His Holiness [the Dalai Lama] always says that Buddha didn’t give teachings to be put on the altar and worshiped but to be studied and practiced. Therefore, studying these teachings is the best offering you can make to Buddha. There are more than a hundred volumes of teachings taught by the Buddha in the Kangyur and more than two hundred volumes in the Tengyur, which are commentaries to these. Then there are the commentaries to these written by Lama Tsongkhapa from his own experience and by other great masters from the different traditions. Here, we are unbelievably lucky to be studying Lama Tsongkhapa’s teachings. It is like tasting the ice cream, the very essence of all Buddha’s teachings.

Amitabha Buddhist Centre, Singapore, offered a long life puja to Rinpoche on March 8, 2013. Photo by Stephen Ching.
His Holiness is always asking us to study the Buddha’s teachings in depth and expressing that 20th-century Buddhism should be based on reasoning and not blind faith. Therefore by studying philosophy we are following His Holiness’ advice. Not only that, but by working for the centers, services and projects in order to benefit all the sentient beings, to free them from suffering and bring them to full enlightenment, we are also fulfilling Guru Shakyamuni Buddha’s holy wishes, His Holiness’ holy wishes and Lama Yeshe’s holy wishes. I often mention this quote by Sakya Pandita to explain the benefits of fulfilling the guru’s wishes:

“The merit you collect by making charity of your limbs for a thousand eons, giving away your head, legs and so forth and dedicating that merit to sentient beings, can all be collected in one second by the guru path.”

This is the benefit of guru yoga practice, obtaining advice and fulfilling the guru’s wishes. Can you imagine? Wow, wow, wow, wow, wow, wow. Then, in tantra it is explained that just as a small fire spark can reduce a huge pile of wood to ashes in an instant, in the same way all the heavy negative karmas collected in this or previous lives can be burned up in a second by pleasing the guru.

Also, I often tell the story of Geshe Mitungwa, who was held with great fondness by the Seventh Dalai Lama. One day this geshe went to see His Holiness to ask for a prediction about where he would be reborn. The Seventh Dalai Lama told him, “When you die you will immediately be reborn as an ox with blue horns.” Geshe Mitungwa laughed so hard when he heard this that the Seventh Dalai Lama asked him what was so funny. The geshe replied, “We are supposed to be following the path of reasoning and debate. So how could I be possibly be immediately reborn as an ox? First I would have to go through the intermediate state, then I would have to take birth in the womb of a female ox and so on. There is just no way I could immediately become an ox with blue horns!”

Hearing this, the Omniscient Seventh Dalai Lama also laughed and laughed and then said, “Now you will be born as a bhikshu, a fully ordained monk.” To which the geshe replied, “Now that really doesn’t make any sense! First you said I would be born as an ox and now you are saying that I will be born as a fully ordained monk when I haven’t done anything in between to purify or accumulate merits?” In response, His Holiness said, “Yes. That is because, between the two of us, I am a little bit special as it seems I have the blessing of Chenrezig. Therefore, since you amused me and made me happy, your negative karma to be born as an ox was purified and everything became auspicious for you to be a monk.”

This story shows the benefits of pleasing the guru and fulfilling the guru’s wishes. By studying and offering service to the centers you are fulfilling the guru’s wishes and advice all the time. Therefore, every day your life can change, just as it did for Geshe Mitungwa, and you can purify the causes for negative rebirth in a day or even an hour. In this way, our lives are full of unbelievable opportunities for happiness, including enlightenment. There is so much to enjoy and no time for depression.

Finally, from the heart, from the depth of my bones, I want to specially thank all my brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, all the people at the FPMT International Office in Portland, my office, for continuously and happily offering service with sincerity and compassion to all sentient beings. Thank you very, very, very, very, very much for all your hard work and dedication. You should know that you are benefitting the numberless hell beings, hungry ghosts, animals, human beings, suras, asuras, intermediate beings of this world and particularly the FPMT students. Your good heart, work and service are also an offering to His Holiness and I’m sure everybody loves His Holiness! So thank you very much.

With much love and prayers,

Lama Zopa
Dear Friends,

At FPMT International Office, Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s office, we have a great team of people who are here to serve you and the FPMT centers, projects and services in 36 countries around the world. In our annual review we always try to give you a sense of what we accomplished in the passing year.

Rinpoche’s health has been good throughout 2013. Doctors seems satisfied and I can still see slow, but steady, improvement. I would like to update you on some of Rinpoche’s activities in 2013. You will see that Rinpoche still puts a great deal of effort into the service of others, as he always has.

There were two big achievements this year for the organization. The first was His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s May teaching event in Portland at Maitripa College’s invitation. During that time, His Holiness visited and blessed FPMT International Office. The second major achievement this year was the handing over of the land for the Maitreya Project in Kushinagar from the Uttar Pradesh (UP) government in India. This development was 13 years in the making and a huge advancement for this beneficial project.

Rinpoche planned to be in Portland for His Holiness’ visit, but at the last minute, had to cancel his visit. However, Rinpoche offered a beautiful silver Dharmachakra [Dharma wheel] to His Holiness via video. We took the video in Kopan of Rinpoche offering while visualizing His Holiness, then emailed the video to Portland and International Office arranged for the video to be played to His Holiness after Tenzin Ösel Hita offered a body, speech and mind mandala in person. His Holiness watched the video of Rinpoche humbly offering the Dharmachakra and joined in the chant when Rinpoche did the short mandala offering. Three weeks later, in Dharamsala, Rinpoche was actually able to offer this silver Dharmachakra to His Holiness in the main temple. His Holiness asked that the Dharmachakra be placed in front of the Guru Rinpoche statue on the main altar of the temple.

We ended 2013 most auspiciously in December with a large ceremony in Kushinagar. The chief minister of UP officially handed over 270 acres (109 hectares) of land to the Maitreya Project. There was only one week’s notice to prepare for the event which an estimated 100,000 Indians attended as well as several ministers. After 13 years and a great deal of hardship, finally the land has been received. We expect the project to be up and running very soon, first concentrating on free medical facilities for the poor villagers in the area.

So now we have two Maitreya Projects: one statue in Kushinagar and one in Bodhgaya! These will be two separate projects with different emphases. The Bodhgaya project will have Maitreya in the enlightened aspect (cross-legged) and the Kushinagar project will have Maitreya in the bodhisattva aspect (sitting with his legs down). On the Maitreya land in Bodhgaya, there will be a place for His Holiness the Dalai Lama to teach. It will also be a place for other large teaching events and prayer festivals such as the Gelug Mönlam. More news is coming soon on the two Maitreya Projects.

Rinpoche visited Kopan Monastery several times during 2013 to give teachings and lungs to the monks and nuns. Rinpoche spent six weeks in Taiwan, mostly doing retreat in our center in Taichung City and then gave teachings at our three centers in Taiwan. Rinpoche then taught in Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

In the middle of the year, Rinpoche spent about two months in retreat with Khadro-la (Rangjung Neljorma Khadro Namsel Drolma), Serkong Tsenshab Rinpoche and two senior Namgyal Monastery monks in a very special holy place of Chenrezig in a remote mountain area of Himachal Pradesh in India. In August, Rinpoche went to Mongolia to lead the 100 Million Mani Retreat. This was very successful with many Mongolians attending. They did the retreat
with great devotion and the 100 million mani mantras were easily achieved. Rinpoche is hoping to establish this as an annual event in Mongolia. The next retreat is planned for July and August in 2014. Both times while Rinpoche was in retreat, I flew back to have meetings at FPMT International Office.

From September until the end of the year, Rinpoche did routine medical check-ups in the United States and spent some time teaching in the Santa Cruz area in California. Rinpoche also put a lot of effort into blessing the ocean and all the creatures within it using the special 5-by-7-foot (1.5-by-2-meter) Namgyälma mantra board.

After California, Rinpoche returned to Nepal to teach the annual one-month Kopan lam-rim meditation course. As soon as Rinpoche arrived, after a long flight, he walked straight into the gompa and started teaching. This continued for 90 minutes while standing near the throne! There was a great group of people this last year. Two hundred eighty mostly new students participated with English monk Ven. Steve Carlier, who was teaching the course with Rinpoche.

As soon as the course finished, Rinpoche went on a tight schedule and courtesy of the UP government, to India via helicopter to the opening ceremony of the Kushinagar land for the Maitreya Project and returned the same day. Then Rinpoche went on to Sera Je Monastery to continue giving the lungs of the Most Secret Hayagriva lineages. Around 800 to 900 monks and about 300 international students attended. It concluded with a long life puja for Rinpoche. Then His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s Jangchup Lamrim teachings began.

We were also able to support many projects [for more information about donations made through FPMT Charitable Projects, see page 17], including a new kitchen for the Tibetan school in Bylakuppe, food for young children in Ladakh, and ongoing support for Bigu Nunnery in the remote mountains on the border of Nepal and Tibet where we sponsor two 100 million mani retreats each year. We continue to support many projects and educational needs in the great monasteries of India and Nepal as well as in Tibet. And we are now in a position to help establish long-term retreat facilities in the United States and Australia. This will help fulfill another holy wish of Rinpoche’s: “Within FPMT, the study and learning is good, now FPMT students need to actualize the path.”

In 2014 we plan to put effort into the actual building of these retreat facilities so serious retreaters can begin retreat under the guidance of qualified teachers. Also in 2014 we will begin a new phase of working hard to revise and develop our FPMT educational programs and, in partnership with Sera Je Monastery, work on translations of the five great philosophical texts as well as other texts and materials to support our programs.

Rinpoche has three key events in 2014: the Light of the Path retreat in North Carolina in May; teachings in Italy and the UK; and then later in September and October, the CPMT meeting and the continuation of the Bodhicaryavatara and Rinjung Gyatsa teaching event in Australia.

So many people from around the world make all this possible, so many kind-hearted and generous people offer in different ways to support the holy wishes of Lama Yeshe and Rinpoche. It is so inspiring and moving to see all this compassionate activity all around the world. There is nothing more meaningful to do, so please take a moment to rejoice with us.

From the heart, thank you,

roger
2013 has been a positive and encouraging year for FPMT, with the health of our most precious spiritual director and board member Lama Zopa Rinpoche continuing to improve, and some of its most significant projects such as the two Maitreya Projects in Bodhgaya and Kushinagar, India and the Great Stupa in Bendigo, Australia – beginning to take clear shape.

The year has also been one of deep reflection as, at Rinpoche’s request, the FPMT board of directors has taken forward the task of planning how the FPMT will successfully continue its mission of preserving the Mahayana tradition and of benefiting sentient beings long into the future. To this end, the board met nine times in 2013: eight times remotely and once in a face-to-face, five-day meeting generously hosted by Land of Medicine Buddha in California.

Rinpoche’s energetic participation in the face-to-face meeting in September was of particular significance. The meeting included looking at how the board of directors can function more effectively in the future in supporting our multi-faceted and multi-cultural organization. We look forward to involving the wider FPMT community in these discussions during the 2014 CPMT meeting.

Our meetings have also addressed a range of other matters relating to the health and well-being of FPMT, such as approving charters for FPMT’s extensive range of charitable projects, considering the future of FPMT properties in Mongolia, and working to settle other pressing financial issues. We are very appreciative of the hard work of Ven. Roger Kunsang, our CEO, his executive committee and the entire staff at International Office. None of this would be possible without their tireless support.

Throughout 2013, the board has also been actively engaged in supporting Ösel, the recognized reincarnation of FPMT founder Lama Yeshe, to explore how to develop his capacity to benefit others both within and outside of the FPMT. In September, Ösel commenced a course in Communication Studies at a community college in the Santa Cruz area and is now continuing his studies in Maui, Hawaii.

As always, the FPMT, Inc. board of directors is your board, and we are here to help all students and supporters of FPMT work together to preserve the Mahayana tradition in accordance with the advice of our lamas and in the spirit of our unique Wisdom Culture. Please enjoy this year’s annual review and rejoice with us in all that we’ve been able to accomplish together.

With warmest good wishes,

Karuna Cayton,
Chair of the Board of Directors, FPMT, Inc.
As Ven. Roger detailed on pages 5-6, Rinpoche taught and toured extensively at 11 FPMT centers in Asia and USA in 2013; met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in June and December; was offered six long life pujas; attended the amazing event in Kushinagar, India, where the UP government officially handed over the land to the Maitreya Project after 13 years with 100,000 locals in attendance; attended His Holiness’ Janchup Lamrim teachings in India; and offered his generous support to many beneficial projects. Please rejoice in this collection of photos which beautifully chronicle some of Rinpoche’s 2013.

From left: His Holiness the Dalai Lama reading a letter from Lama Zopa Rinpoche with Tenzin Ösel Hita after a body, speech and mind mandala offering, FPMT International Office, Portland, Oregon, U.S., May 10, 2013. Photo by Leah Nash; Lama Zopa Rinpoche leaving the long life puja offered on December 22, 2013, at Drati Khantsen, Sera Je Monastery, India.

Clockwise from left: Lama Zopa Rinpoche and Tenzin Ösel Hita, California, September 2013; Rinpoche and Richard Gere at Kopan Monastery; Rinpoche and the Chief Minister of UP during the ceremony to hand over the Maitrya Project land in Kushinagar, India. An estimated 100,000 people attended. December 13, 2013. Photos by Ven. Roger Kunsang.

PLEASE REJOICE WITH US
EDUCATION SERVICES

In accordance with the wishes, guidance, and advice of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, we create high-quality study programs suitable for all levels which are available in FPMT centers, as homestudy materials, or via our Online Learning Center; we publish various practice materials in hard copy and digital formats available through the Foundation Store; and we work with a global network of educators, trainers, translators and publishers to develop valuable training programs and translations.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS
Published Practice Materials

• 19 eBooks, including Padmasambhava’s Instruction on Offerings to Stupas; Long Life Lama Chöpa with Request to the Dakinis; A Daily Meditation on Shakyamuni Buddha; The Yoga of the Three Purifications of Shri Chakrasamvara; and 1000 Offerings to Namgyalma.

• Two inspiring cards designed by Lama Zopa Rinpoche: The Practice of Virtue card and Buddha’s Teaching on Our Lives card.

• A revision to A Practical Guide of Skillful Means, a manual for those offering service in FPMT.

• The development of practice materials – prayers, practices and a commentary – associated with Gyalwa Gyatso.

• Updates and revisions to other common texts such as the Heart of the Perfection of Wisdom Sutra and the short Medicine Buddha sadhana.

Translation and Training

• Istituto Lama Tzong Khapa’s second Masters Program completed the three-month review and final exam in December; students have started their year-long retreat.

• The Lotsawa Rinchen Zangpo Translator Team completed the first set of FPMT Preferred Term Glossary inclusions.

Programs

• A completely new edition of the Basic Program Guidelines for Implementation went online in November.

• Nalanda Monastery started its second residential Basic Program in January and its first Masters Program in September.

• The Spanish Translation Services’ first book in their new Basic Program series came out in October; several other Basic Program texts became available as eBooks.

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Resources

• We have made several new pages of information and resources available on fpmt.org: a list of lam-rim resources to support Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s “Actualizing Realizations of the Path;” the “Holy Objects,” “Mantras,” “Prayers and Practices” and “Sutras” pages; and an FPMT Education Services blog, featuring the latest exciting news.

• We continued to support education scholarships through offering US$25,000 to students who are on track to become FPMT registered teachers.

FPMT Online Learning Center

The FPMT Online Learning Center (OLC) currently offers easy, affordable access to FPMT Education Services’ philosophy- and practice-oriented courses and other educational media ranging in level from beginner to advanced.

• At year end, the Online Learning Center had 17,250 registered users from 247 countries (an increase of 8,143 since 2012) and over 7,100 discussion forum posts.

• The OLC website received 78,514 visits from 40,357 visitors in 164 countries.

• Four new modules, including two Spanish-language modules, went live, bringing the total number of available modules to 55.

Live Webcasts

• We hosted live webcasts of Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s teaching from seven different teaching events in Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Mongolia and the United States. All are made freely available to interested students.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

• Strengthened our network of providers, selecting vendors with high-quality products at an affordable and consistent price with a high level of commitment.

• Improved and standardized the majority of online product descriptions and their layout, such as featuring different product benefits.

• Continued to support FPMT Education Services by making more products available in other language and in electronic formats (eBooks, PDFs, online, audio/DVD downloads) to avoid shipping costs and support students outside of the United States.

• Customer service continues to be the heart of our work and an integral part of our job with immediate response to inquiries and prompt delivery remaining our number one goal year after year.

The Foundation Store

The Foundation Store is FPMT’s online shop, providing students the world over with FPMT’s education programs, prayers and practices and meditation supplies such as malas, incense, ritual items, thangkas, statues, and much more such as materials for children. The Foundation Store seeks to support practitioners as economically as possible, wherever they reside in the world.

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Our Dharma Income

Foundation Store products are made available for Dharma practice and educational purposes, and never to profit from the sale of holy objects. Proceeds from sales are carefully categorized and calculated to ensure that income from Dharma items is used to make available more Dharma and to further the mission FPMT.
2013 HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing Regional and National Support: Regionalization is working well within FPMT, with a new regional office opened to serve Southeast Asia. All FPMT centers, projects and services are now served by a national or regional coordinator! This means that FPMT can offer better support across the global organization. Hours given by regional and national coordinators (almost all voluntary) totaled 4,865.

- Regional and National meetings were organized by each office.

- We currently serve 161 centers, projects, services, and study groups in 36 countries.

- With the help of regional and national coordinators, we helped induct 18 new directors and 26 new spiritual program coordinators in 2013.

- We continued to encourage and support good governance via work at regional and national meetings and a new guideline – Successful Induction of Board Members – to help center, project and service board members (also known as “trustees” or “executive committee members”) be fully familiar with their responsibilities and key FPMT policies and guidelines.

- In order to support alignment with FPMT’s mission and governance principles, we ensured that those in management positions signed their acknowledgement of FPMT Ethical Policy and the FPMT Handbook.

- We helped support FPMT registered teachers – 81 foundational teachers; 66 in-depth teachers; and 21 long retreat teachers – in addition to 44 resident geshes and 18 non-geshe resident teachers. Five resident teachers were helped into their new positions this year.

- We successfully concluded our offer of honorary certificates to long-standing teachers and began our new teacher development initiative, the Continuous Professional Development Review.

- Long life pujas were organized for His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Lama Zopa Rinpoche on behalf of all FPMT centers, projects, services and students. At the official long life puja for Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the inspiring number of practices offered by students for Rinpoche’s health and long life was shared.

- We helped Lama Zopa Rinpoche offer robes to all ordained resident teachers and busy touring teachers.

- Organization has begun on CPMT 2014, the international FPMT meeting, to be held in the Great Stupa of Universal Compassion, Bendigo, Australia.

Highlights from Around the World: Centers, Projects and Services

- Two FPMT centers – (Maitripa College in the United States and Tushita Mahayana Meditation Centre in India) – hosted His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

- Lama Zopa Rinpoche gave initiations and teachings at 11 FPMT centers, most of which were available to watch via live webstream, including the 100 Million Mani Retreat in Mongolia and a video talk for the North American Regional Meeting.

- Centers, projects and services and International Mahayana Institute Sangha celebrated FPMT’s 11th International Sangha Day.
Thanks very much for the documents. It really looks so caring and professional that you have put these documents together to guide people to a next stage in their lives.

– Former Center Director

I also took the time to read the FPMT Handbook. Very interesting, it helped me to clarify many things. Also I now know where to look if I have some questions.

– Incoming Center Director

For our center, I think the new policy has been great! Setting up a relatively clear path to becoming a teacher has really motivated some of our members to study harder and more seriously!

– Center Director

One touring teacher commented:

I’m so impressed how much time and effort the people in centers put into making the program and attending the program. Absolutely improved. Now there seems to be a joy when offering service … I think the FPMT now has a lot to be proud of.
FPMT International Office manages an array of beneficial charitable projects that support Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s vast visions for the FPMT organization. 2013 has been a truly outstanding year due to the sheer volume of support we were able to offer to these worthy and beneficial projects. These projects are a testament to Rinpoche’s great kindness and far-seeing vision and embody the compassionate mission of FPMT.

Each charitable project has a regularly updated individual news blog, photo gallery and webpage on fpmt.org which chronicle the particular project’s ongoing work and achievements.

Three times a day, enough food must be prepared for all 2,500 monks studying at Sera Je Monastery. The Sera Je Food Fund offers 8,300 meals every day.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Lama Zopa Rinpoche, through the Lama Zopa Rinpoche Bodhichitta Fund, donated US$939,337 to various social services and Dharma activities including:

- 10 people to complete 108 nyung nä retreats at Institut Vajra Yogini, France
- US$14,000 to sponsor two 100 million mani retreats at Bigu Nunnery in Nepal
- Extensive daily offerings and prayers made by Sangha on behalf of the FPMT organization
- Housing, food and other expenses to young incarnate lamas such as Geshe Sengye Rinpoche, Nyingre Tulku, Domo Geshe Rinpoche and Serkong Tsenshab Rinpoche
- US$30,000 toward the renovation of the school kitchen for the Central School for Tibetans in Bylakuppe, India
- US$22,709 toward the new roof for Kopan House at Sera Je Monastery
- US$5,677 toward Tashi Lhunpo Monastery Health Clinic
- US$39,301.56 for the roof and altar of Gaden Jangtse Samlo Khangtsen
- US$15,720.62 toward a food fund for 35 students and staff for one year at Ngari Institute in Leh, Ladakh, India
- US$65,187 to the FPMT Puja Fund for ongoing pujas dedicated on behalf of the entire organization
• US$100,000 toward Sera Je Monastery for new science classrooms

• US$14,63 for a new roof for Geshe Gendun Chomphel's khamtsen. Geshe-la is Tenzin Ösel Hita's main teacher at Sera Je Monastery

• US$12,000 for two stupas to be built in California

• US$10,000 toward a Lama Yeshe statue

The Sera Je Food Fund is one of FPMT's most important and impactful projects. For the last 22 years FPMT has been able to offer meals to the 2,500 monks studying at Sera Je Monastery in India. Over 37,379,600 meals have been offered since 1991. 3,029,500 meals are offered every year and 8,300 every day! The total cost to provide meals to all the monks, maintain the kitchen and employ staff is US$280,000 per year. All the monks benefiting from this offering make daily prayers before the meals for all the kind sponsors of the fund, as well for the entire FPMT organization. Most FPMT resident geshes are educated at Sera Je Monastery.

For over 18 years FPMT has been providing continuous pujas dedicated to the long life of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and to the success of all the FPMT centers and projects, students, benefactors and those serving the organization in any way through the FPMT Puja Fund. Many of the pujas are offered by as many as 9,000 Sangha in India, Nepal and other countries around the world and include:

• 100,000 Tsog Offerings to Padmasambhava

• Recitation of 100,000 Praises to the 21 Taras

• Recitation of the Kangyur (The complete collection of Buddha’s teachings)

• Monthly extensive Medicine Buddha puja and Hayagriva puja

• Offerings to the Boudhanath and Swayambunath stupas

• Offering of robes and gold to Buddha statues in Tibet and Bodhgaya

This year Lama Zopa Rinpoche tripled the amount of pujas and practices being sponsored in Sera, Gaden, Drepung and Gyume Monasteries bringing

The Lama Zopa Rinpoche Bodhichitta Fund commissioned an enormous Guru Rinpoche (Padmasambhava) thangka stitched in appliqué (90 ft x 70 ft). His Holiness the Dalai Lama blessed the thangka, India, December 29, 2013. Copyright Rio Helmi / Jangchup LamrimTeaching Organizing Committee.
the annual cost for all the pujas to US$78,539.01. The importance of these ongoing pujas is tremendous. They not only benefit those for whom the pujas are dedicated, but they greatly benefit the Sangha who are sponsored to offer the pujas.

16 years ago His Holiness the Dalai Lama requested Lama Zopa Rinpoche to establish the **Lama Tsongkhapa Teachers Fund.** This fund is responsible for supporting:

- 100 of the most senior teachers of the Lama Tsongkhapa tradition through a monthly stipend
- Hundreds of monks to attend the annual Gelug exam
- Monks and nuns to attend the annual winter debate in India and Nepal

The **Preserving the Lineage Fund** sponsors ongoing initiations and oral transmissions essential for the preservation of the Dharma, such as the extremely rare oral transmissions (*Wangya Norbu Tangwa/Garlands of Jewels of Hundreds of Initiations*) given by His Holiness the Sakya Trizin. This fund also sponsors the printing of Dharma texts and large teaching events.

The **Long Life Puja Fund** sponsors annual long life pujas to our immeasurably precious teachers: His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Lama Zopa Rinpoche. The purpose of the long life puja is for students to purify the mistakes that occur in relation to their teacher, and to create the causes and conditions to continue to receive benefit from that teacher for a very long time.

- The annual long life puja for Lama Zopa Rinpoche was offered at the end of the Kopan November course. In addition, five other long life pujas were offered to Lama Zopa Rinpoche in Taiwan, Singapore, USA, Nepal and India.

- Lama Zopa Rinpoche offered a silver Dharmachakra and US$22,400 to His Holiness the Dalai Lama at Sera Je Monastery following the Jangchup Lamrim teachings on behalf of FPMT for his long life and the fulfillment of his wishes.

A vitally important **stupa is being built in San Francisco** in order to minimize harm caused by possible earthquakes. This stupa is being built under the advice of Khadro-la. In 2013 extensive ground-work was done to identify possible land for the project.

The **Stupa Fund** offered over 1,000 small Kadampa stupas (filled with the four dharmakaya relic mantras) dedicated with prayers for those who have recently passed away.

The Sangha at Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s residence continued doing extensive animal liberations, a practice for animals that would otherwise be killed, four times a month, with extensive dedications for the long life of our precious gurus and for all beings who are sick. The **Animal Liberation Fund** offered US$9,364 for the liberation of over 40,000 lives and sponsored very large animal liberations in Singapore and Hong Kong where many millions of lives were liberated, and medicine for animals liberated in India.

The **Big Love Fund** supported the educational endeavors of Tenzin Ösel Hita. Ösel attended one FPMT board meeting and also visited FPMT International Office during the visit of His Holiness the Dalai Lama where he presented His Holiness with a mandala offering on behalf of the entire organization. Ösel also began college studies in California, USA, and spent some time in Sera Je Monastery where he received teachings from Geshe Genden Chompel.

Through the **Prajnaparamita Project**, US$20,101 was offered toward the writing out of the *Prajñaparamita Sutra* (primarily for gold, paper and other calligraphy supplies). This was the eleventh year that Ven. Tsering, a Kopan monk, has been writing this precious sutra in pure gold and he is now on the fourth volume out of twelve! Recently Ven. Tsering expressed: “I feel like I am the most fortunate one in the whole world to do this project.”

The above are just a sampling of the many contributions made this year from FPMT Charitable Projects to an array of beneficial activities and causes. Many more accomplishments can be seen on our website.

*For a full financial report on all of the donations made on behalf of FPMT Charitable Projects for 2013, please see page 26.*
The Lama Zopa Rinpoche Bodhichitta Fund offered US$10,000 toward the array of beneficial projects of Panchen Otrul Rinpoche in Mongolia, including the Hot Meal and Sponsorship Programs, which provides children with meals, equipment, clothes and school supplies.

Lama Zopa Rinpoche with Ven. Khedup and MAITRI Charitable Trust director Adriana Ferranti and her staff circumambulating the stupas made so that animals can create merit while they receive care. The Animal Liberation Fund was pleased to offer US$3,000 to MAITRI Charitable Trust.

Monks at Sera Mey Monastery offering monthly Medicine Buddha puja on behalf of the FPMT Puja Fund.
FPMT International Office maintains extensive methods for communicating: The FPMT website provides Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s schedule and advice, shares information for those offering service in the organization, serves as a gateway to the educational opportunities and all the activities of the entire FPMT organization, plus much more. Mandala Publications (website and print magazine) reports on events, both large and small, within the organization and offers an array of features that provide inspiration and perspective for students as well as provides almost daily news on Lama Zopa Rinpoche. FPMT International Office e-News brings monthly updates which help students keep up-to-date with Rinpoche’s schedule, health updates and latest advice, plus timely updates on education programs and new materials, service guidelines and policy, and news from all over the Foundation. The FPMT and CPMT e-groups give the community an easy way to communicate and release news. Our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts provide snippets of news, advice, teachings and video clips of Lama Zopa Rinpoche and the greater organization. Prayers for the Dead offers a highly valued support service for those who have died and who are grieving.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS:

Website and YouTube

• fpmt.org had 308,243 unique visitors – a 5.05% increase from 2012 – who viewed 1,188,573 pages. Visits from social networking sites were up 218.07% and new visits and unique visits increased this year by 13% and 4% respectively, illustrating a shift in the ways in which people are accessing information about our services.

• All FPMT, Inc. websites (fpmt.org, Mandala Publications, The Foundation Store, and the Online Learning Center) were redesigned with new templates and active blogging capacity to better serve all users.

• fpmt.org and mandala.fpmt.org were migrated to a WordPress multisite.

• A new Lama Zopa Rinpoche news blog is keeping students connected to FPMT’s spiritual director.

• We continued to support centers via the opportunity to publicize their retreats and volunteer or job openings globally on fpmt.org.

• The FPMT YouTube channel had 7,379 subscribers with 186 uploaded videos, including the very popular Discovering Buddhism modules. We are regularly adding videos and many of these feed to the fpmt.org website and our Facebook pages.
**Mandala Publications**

- *Mandala* published four print issues in 2013, which were available as a benefit of the Friends of FPMT program. Average readership per print issue in 2013 was 11,000.

- *Mandala* launched mandala.fpmt.org, our redesigned free website, which saw impressive growth in 2013. We had 130,000 unique visitors—a 39% increase from 2012—who viewed 298,000 pages.

- *Mandala* added 211 new pages to our website, which included new interviews and articles as well as stories drawn from *Mandala*’s extensive archive, and published 281 new posts on our blogs, which includes our “FPMT News Around the World” blog.

- Working with the generous supporters of the Friends of FPMT program, *Mandala* helped sponsor 687 of the more than 1,900 copies of the magazine mailed to prisoners in 2013.

- *Mandala* began offering all the members of International Mahayana Institute, FPMT’s nuns and monks, access to the electronic version of the print magazine.

**FPMT International Office e-News, Blogs, e-Groups, Social Networking, Prayers for the Dead**

- At the end of 2013 we had 24,966 monthly subscribers to our FPMT International Office e-News, a net increase of 5,209 from 2012.

- Updates on Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s health continued to be posted on the “Rinpoche’s Health and Updates” blog on fpmt.org.

- Ven. Roger Kunsang began utilizing Twitter with regular updates about and quotes from Lama Zopa Rinpoche.

- The FPMT and CPMT e-groups continued to provide an essential communication tool for students and for those offering service in FPMT.

- FPMT’s, Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s and *Mandala*’s Facebook and Twitter accounts kept the international FPMT community informed and inspired through daily updates, videos, news and topical articles. All pages saw increases in fans and followers.

- Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s Facebook page following grew exponentially this year. Rinpoche now has over 108,000 followers, an increase of over 94,000 from last year.

- *Mandala* keeps fpmt.org updated almost every day with news, photos and small updates about Lama Zopa Rinpoche.

- Tenzin Ösel Hita’s Facebook page has 5,571 followers from 20 countries. Ösel posts regularly on this page and it is moderated by himself as well as FPMT International Office.

- Prayers for the Dead facilitated prayers for 364 individuals who had passed away.
2013 HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Friends of FPMT** program is one of FPMT International Office’s largest annual funding sources, and connects the FPMT community of supporters with enhanced opportunities for Dharma education through the Online Learning Center, *Mandala* magazine, downloadable Dharma gifts, and advice from Lama Zopa Rinpoche in monthly e-Newsletters.

- During 2013, Friends of FPMT raised US$219,721 and welcomed or continued to support almost 1,000 Friends worldwide and over 2,000 Free Friends of FPMT.

- Donations made to **Work a Day for Rinpoche** go to FPMT International Office, which works to support Rinpoche’s vast vision. In 2013, the Work a Day for Rinpoche campaign raised US$75,676 with contributions from 685 individual donors from 50 countries.

- **The International Merit Box Project** is an incredibly meritorious way to develop generosity and help contribute to eligible FPMT centers, projects and services. In 2013, the International Merit Box Project distributed US$51,950 in grants to 13 centers, projects and services.

- **The Give Where Most Needed Fund** was launched in late 2013 as a way to support the Foundation with unrestricted gifts that will be used for the greatest good to fulfill the mission of FPMT, Inc. and meet urgent needs or budget shortfalls for projects or activities. Our first year-end campaign raised US$22,100 from 233 donations through December 31.

- The board of directors approved the **FPMT Endowment Plan** in order to provide for the long-term future funding of the International Office and FPMT Charitable Projects and help preserve the Mahayana tradition for generations to come.
The CFO and Financial Controller of FPMT International Office are responsible for managing and supervising the finances of the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition, Inc. (FPMT, Inc.) as directed by its Board of Directors. Finances are divided between general funds (unrestricted), and funds designated for specific charitable projects (restricted funds).

The chart gives an overview of the total overall income and disbursements for 2013 for the FPMT International Office (unrestricted funds) and for the Charitable Projects (restricted funds).

In 2013, total income for the International Office was US$1,329,743 and total expenses were US$1,282,177, resulting in a surplus of US$47,566. This surplus was allocated towards unrestricted reserves for helping with future year needs and any potential future deficits.

In 2013, the total income for the Charitable Projects was US$6,313,650 and the total disbursements and expenses were US$3,235,082 with the surplus primarily being for some endowment restricted funds and for funds with projected disbursements requirements in 2014 and beyond.

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1 Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition, Inc. (known as FPMT, Inc.) is the legal entity of FPMT International Office. The terms FPMT, Inc. and International Office are interchangeable. In practical terms, the International Office functions and serves as Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s office, therefore the guidance of our Spiritual Director is implicit.

2 Restricted funds include all the charitable projects of FPMT, Inc. as outlined on our website at http://fpmt.org/projects/fpmt/ and http://fpmt.org/projects/other/ in addition to certain other charitable projects as directed by Lama Zopa Rinpoche and the Board of Directors.
Unrestricted funds have no donor-imposed restrictions, and therefore can be used to fulfill the varying needs of the organization. The following charts give a summary of FPMT, Inc.'s unrestricted income and expenses in 2013. The primary sources of income were administration fees, investment income and gains, fundraising and donation income, Friends of FPMT donations, *Mandala* magazine revenue and profit from The Foundation Store. The primary expenses were the management costs of the International Office, where each department is responsible for helping to carry out the charitable mission of FPMT, Inc.
CHARITABLE PROJECTS DISBURSEMENTS - 2013

Disbursements from Charitable Projects during 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In US Dollars</th>
<th>FY 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LZR Bodhichitta Fund *</td>
<td>$939,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LZR Miscellaneous Projects Fund *</td>
<td>$800,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sera Food Fund</td>
<td>$217,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTK Teachers Fund</td>
<td>$67,501</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work A Day Fund</td>
<td>$64,359</td>
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<tr>
<td>FPMT Puja Fund</td>
<td>$63,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remaining FPMT Charitable Projects</td>
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<td>Merit Box Fund</td>
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<td>Big Love Fund</td>
<td>$41,398</td>
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<tr>
<td>LZR Long Life Puja</td>
<td>$40,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Scholarship Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>LRCM Lamrim Chenmo</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>HHDL Long Life Puja</td>
<td>$24,044</td>
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<td>Prajnaparamita Project</td>
<td>$20,101</td>
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<td>Prayers for Dead Fund</td>
<td>$18,697</td>
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<td>Stupa Fund</td>
<td>$12,124</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Liberation Fund</td>
<td>$9,364</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stupa to Minimize Harm</td>
<td>$7,388</td>
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<tr>
<td>Padmasambhava Project</td>
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<td>Translations Fund</td>
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<td>Buddha Amitabha Pure Land</td>
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<td>Online Learning Fund</td>
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<td>Other Projects within FPMT</td>
<td>$210,133</td>
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<td>Maitreya Projects</td>
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<td>FPMT Mongolia</td>
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<td>Lama Yeshe Sangha Fund</td>
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<td>Animal Liberation Sanctuary</td>
<td>$23,000</td>
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<td>Tara Puja Fund</td>
<td>$13,167</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land of Calm Abiding</td>
<td>$3,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL DISBURSED FROM CHARITABLE PROJECTS</td>
<td>$2,652,516</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table and chart outline the direct disbursements during 2013 to FPMT Charitable Projects. The direct disbursements came to a total of US$2,652,516.1

* LZR Bodhichitta Fund disbursements include offerings to various monasteries and projects in India of US$372,943; sponsorship of statues, thangkas and other holy objects and Dharma activities of US$115,974; grants to FPMT centers, projects, services and charitable projects of US$260,350 (including Root Institute US$79,750; MAITRI US$58,800; FPMT Mongolia US$26,433; Kopan US$20,425; Preserving the Lineage Fund US$14,691; Vajrapani Institute US$10,000, Institut Vajra Yogini US$9,823; Stupa to Minimize Harm Fund US$6,203, Others US$34,225); and sponsorship of Tibetan and Western Sangha, offering practices for the organization, and support and care for our Spiritual Director of US$190,070.

* LZR Miscellaneous Projects Fund disbursements include offerings to holy objects and projects in India and Nepal of US$542,808; sponsorship of a stupa project of US$65,594; and grants and donations to FPMT centers, projects and services of US$192,500 (FDCW US$75,000, LCA US$21,000, LPP US$50,000 and LYSF US$46,50).

1 The disbursement figures are inclusive of some interfund disbursements that will be subject to audit adjustments during our annual financial audit, which is conducted by our auditors Gary McGee & Co. LPP. The disbursement figures do not include some internal transfers and expenses for administration fees and credit card merchant fees.
FPMT International Office is Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s office.

Executive Office
Ven. Roger Kunsang, President and Chief Executive Officer
Eamon Walsh, Chief Financial Officer
George Williams, Director of Operations

Assistant to the CEO and
FPMT Charitable Projects Coordinator
Ven. Holly Ansett

Finance and Administration
Aruna Prakash, Finance Controller
Chuck Latimer, Human Resources, Administration, and Development
Carl Jensen, Administrator and Office Manager

Center Services
Claire Isitt, Director

Education Services
Tom Truty, Director
Merry Colony, Education Consultant
Sarah Shifferd, Editor
Kendall Magnussen, Editor
Olga Planken, Masters and Basic Program Coordinator

Education and Charitable Projects Support
Carina Rumrill, Editor

Foundation Store
Diana Ospina, Manager
Samten Gorab, Order Fulfillment and Customer Service

Mandala Publications
Laura Miller, Managing Editor and Publisher
Michael Jolliffe, Assistant Editor, Advertising and Sales

Donor Services
Justin Jenkins, Coordinator

Information Technology
Brad Ackroyd, Manager

Web Development
Adam Payne, Manager

Environmental Coordinator
Denis Davis

In 2013 we said goodbye to Trevor Fenwick, who served as our Donor Services Coordinator from March of 2012 to March of 2013. We welcomed Justin Jenkins, who started in March of 2013, as the new Donor Services Coordinator.
THANK YOU!

FPMT International Office offers our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all FPMT centers, projects, services, teachers, students, volunteers and benefactors who supported us in 2013. Your kindness helps provide the tools and resources we need to help carry forth Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s wishes. All of our accomplishments are yours as well, so please rejoice with us!

We would like to recognize and deeply thank our very kind volunteers who gave their time and enthusiasm in 2013: Ven. Thubten Kunsang, Alexis Ben El Hadj, Grant Couch, Adrian Dec, Margaret Johnson, John Bennett, Ryan Fitz, Gwen McEwen, Daryl Dunigan, Donna Brown, Jacob Stuart, each of our regional and national coordinators (Ven. Paloma Alba, Karla Ambrósio, Isabel Arocena, Amy Cayton, Kay Cooper, Marly Ferreira, Rafael Ferrer, Lara Gatto, Annelies van der Heijden, Frances Howland, Ven. Carolyn Lawler, Steven Lin, Drolkar McCallum, Tara Melwani, Helen Patrin and Jay Simpson), and all of the Sangha and volunteers who help at Lama Zopa Rinpoche’s house.

Dedications at the pujas sponsored by Lama Zopa Rinpoche at the great monasteries throughout the year are made especially for purifying obstacles and creating merit for Dharma activity to flourish in FPMT as well as for all students, supporters and FPMT friends who are ill or have died, and for all those who have worked tirelessly and sacrificed so much to benefit the organization in different ways.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are many opportunities to offer support to FPMT. From volunteering or attending teachings at your local FPMT center, to making a contribution to our charitable projects, to enrolling in our Friends of FPMT program, to participating in one of our education programs, to offering prayers and good wishes, your support and kindness allows us to continue our work.

May 2014 usher in an era of peace and loving kindness in your home, your country and the world.